

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of target bacteria in a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising a mixture of (1) a carbohydrate capable of being a metabolic source for the target bacteria and supporting colonies of the target bacteria, (2) a pH indicator dye that changes the color of the plating medium to a first color different from the color of the medium responsive to a change in the pH of the medium, (3) a first substrate that does not react with the target bacteria and injects color into the medium of a second color responsive to the presence of an enzyme produced by a reaction between non-target bacteria and said first substrate, the second color contrasting with the first color and the color of the medium, (4) a second substrate that does not react with the target bacteria and injects color into the medium of substantially the same color as the second color responsive to the presence of an enzyme produced by a reaction between non-target bacteria and said second substrate, some non-target bacteria reacting with the first substrate but not the second substrate and other non-target bacteria reacting with the second substrate but not the first substrate, and (5) an ingredient for thickening the mixture in sufficient quantity to quantity to solidify the mixture.

2. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of target bacteria in a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the medium of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1 wherein the carbohydrate is one or more members of the group consisting of 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose, xylose, mannitol, dulcitol, sorbitol, L-rhamnose and D-arabitol.

3. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of target bacteria in a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the medium of claim 1 wherein the first substrate and the second substrate are members of the group consisting of 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyranoside galactopyranoside, 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyranoside galactopyranoside, 3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyranoside galactopyranoside, 6-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyranoside galactopyranoside, 4-nitrophenyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, 2-nitrophenyl-beta-D- galactopyranoside galactopyranoside, 5-iodo-3-indoxyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, 4-methylumbelliferyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside galactopyranoside and N-methylindoxyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside.

4. (Original claim) An isolation plating medium for the identification of Salmonella from a sample

containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the mixture of claim 3 in combination with an inhibitor of the group consisting of bile salt, bile salt #3, tellurite, sodium novobiocin and cefsulodin.

5. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of target bacteria in a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the medium of claim 1 claim 1 in combination with a chromogenic substrate enhancer.

6. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of target bacteria in a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the medium of claim 5 wherein the chromogenic substrate enhancer consisting consists of at least one member of the group isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside, 1-O- -beta-D-galactopyranoside, Ethyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside, and Methyl--beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside Methyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside.

7. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of Salmonella from a sample containing Salmonella and a plurality of different non-target bacteria comprising a mixture of (1) a carbohydrate capable of being a metabolic source for Salmonella and supporting colonies of Salmonella bacteria, (2) a pH indicator dye that changes the color of the plating medium to a first color different from and contrasting with the color of the medium responsive to a change in the pH of the medium, (3) a first chromogenic substrate that does not react with Salmonella and injects color into the medium of a second color responsive to the presence of beta-galactosidase, the second color contrasting with the first color and the color of the media, (4) a second chromogenic substrate that does not react with Salmonella and injects color into the medium of approximately said second color responsive to the presence of beta-galactosidase, some non-target bacteria reacting with the first substrate but not the second substrate and other non-target bacteria reacting with the second substrate but not the first substrate, and (6) an ingredient for thickening the mixture in sufficient quantity to quantity to solidify the mixture.

8. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of Salmonella from non-target a sample containing Salmonella and a plurality of different bacteria comprising the mixture of claim 7 wherein the carbohydrate is 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose, and the first and second chromogenic substrates are 3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyraniside galactopyranoside and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D-. galactopyraniside galactopyranoside

9. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of Salmonella from a sample containing Salmonella and a plurality of different non-target bacteria consisting essentially of a mixture of

(1) a carbohydrate that is metabolizable by Salmonella and is one or more members of the group consisting of 2-Deoxy-D-Ribose, xylose, mannitol, dulcitol, sorbitol, L-rhamnose and D-arabitol, (2) a pH indicator dye that changes the color of the plating medium to a first color responsive to a change in the pH of the medium, (3) a first chromogenic substrate that does not react with Salmonella bacteria and changes color to a second color responsive to the presence of galactosidase, (4) a second chromogenic substrate that does not react to Salmonella bacteria and changes color to approximately the same second color responsive to the presence of galactosidase, the second color contrasting with the first color and the first and second colors contrasting with the color of the medium, wherein the first substrate and the second substrate are members of the group consisting of 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D-galactopyraniside galactopyranoside, 5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyraniside galactopyranoside, 3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyraniside galactopyranoside, 6-chloro-3-indoxyl-beta-D- galactopyraniside galactopyranoside, 4-nitrophenyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, 2-nitrophenyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, 5-iodo-3-indoxyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, 4-methylumbelliferyl-beta-D- galactopyraniside galactopyranoside and N-methylindoxyl-beta-D-galactopyranoside, and [(6)] (5) an ingredient for thickening the mixture in sufficient quantity to quantity to solidify the mixture.

10. (Currently amended) An isolation plating medium for the identification of Salmonella from a sample containing a plurality of different bacteria comprising the mixture of claim 8 claim 9 wherein the ingredient for thickening the mixture is agar